

The Trials of Jesus Christ

The Trial before Annas (John 18:12–14, 19–23)

- Who was Annas? What position and power did he have?

- About what two specific points did Annas question Jesus?

- How was Jesus treated during this trial? How do we know that Annas was not interested in the truth?

The Trial before Caiaphas (John 18:24; Mark 14:53–65)

- Who was Caiaphas? What prophetic statement had Caiaphas made when the Sanhedrin had first started plotting to kill Jesus (John 11:49–51) after the resurrection of Lazarus?

- During the trial at Caiaphas' house, what strategy failed to produce criminal evidence against Jesus that would warrant a death sentence? What finally worked, bringing the condemnation they so desperately sought?

The Trial before the Entire Sanhedrin (Mark 15:1; Luke 22:66–71)

- According to Mark 15:1, when did the Sanhedrin reach its decision? Besides Mark's statement, what other event that Jesus predicted helps us to understand the time of day this trial was taking place?

- Mark says that "the whole Sanhedrin reached a decision," but what do the actions of Nicodemus and Joseph of Arimathea indicate about that claim?

- According to John 18:28–32, why did the Sanhedrin turn Jesus over to Pilate for trial?